FEBRUARY 16, 1776. THE NUMBER 55.

VIRGINIA GAZETTE.

ALWAYS FOR LIBERTY, AND THE PUBLICK GOOD.

ALEXANDER PURDIE, PRINTER.

LONDON, *October* 17.

The following is a copy of a letter from mr. Burke *to mr.* Hayes, *the chairman of the meeting of merchants, &c. at* Briſtol.

SIR,

I DELAYED my acknowledgement of your commands until I ſhould be able to inform you that I had obeyed them. I had this day the honour of preſenting your petition to the king. It was graciouſly received. At the ſame time, mr. Baker preſented a petition from the merchants of London, which had the ſame reception.

It gave as much pleaſure, as in the preſent ſtate of things I am capable of feeling, to be honoured with ſuch commands from ſo numerous and reſpectable a body of my conſtituents. I do not yet abandon all hopes that truth and reaſon, frequently and firmly urged, will have their effect; and that the healing endeavours of good and moderate men will prevail over the haſty violence of thoſe deluded people, who, though unable to aſſiſt either with counſels or arms, are ſo forward to give their inconſiderate voices, for the continuance of a bloody and expenſive civil war, which neither they, nor thoſe whom they urge to ſuch a deſperate courſe, are able to foreſee any end of. It is indeed a war againſt the intereſt of England, and in favour of her inveterate enemies.

I have no doubt but that you will perſevere in ſentiments ſo becoming all virtuous and ſober citizens. By degrees, the example of your temper, forbearance, and moderation, operating with the unhappy effects of the preſent meaſures, which begin to be daily more and more conſpicuous, will abate the irregular ardour of ſome fiery ſpirits, and render our city at leaſt unanimous in its wiſhes for the tranquillity of the whole empire.

I beg my beſt compliments to the gentlemen of the committee; and do me the favour to believe me, with great eſteem and regard, your moſt obedient and humble ſervant, EDMUND BURKE.

October 24. The Lydia, Deane, from Quebeck for Liverpool, is arrived at Falmouth in 25 days, and has brought over governour Carleton's family.

The Centurion man of war, and a tranſport, ſailed from Torbay the 15th inſtant, for Boſton.

October 26. We are aſſured that adjutant Richardſon was appointed to his preſent commiſſion merely on the terms of impeaching his friends and countrymen, mr. Sayre and mr. Lee.

Our Engliſh Newgate (if report ſays true) ſeems to be converted into a French Baſtile. Monday laſt a priſoner (who, or what, is not ſaid, nor on what account) was conveyed there, under an eſcort of 10 or 12 horſe before, and as many behind; and yeſterday a diſſenting miniſter, named Riley, was likewiſe conveyed there, on a charge of treaſonable practices againſt the ſtate.

Meſſengers are alſo ſaid to be gone into the country, to fetch up two other diſſenting miniſters, 60 or 70 miles off.

Extract of a letter from Lancaſter, *Oct.* 22.

"On the 20th inſtant was ſtranded in our bay the Peggy, Fiſher, from Virginia for Liverpool, without any thing ſtanding but her foremaſt. She is bulged, part of her deck gone, and lies in the ſand about three miles from land, dry at low water. One mate, a pilot, ſeven of the people, and a lady (a paſſenger) drowned; the maſter, and twelve people, ſaved."

Richardſon was yeſterday ſeen walking alone in St. James's park, his conduct having rendered him ſo deſervedly deteſted that no gentleman will be ſeen to aſſociate with him.

Nov. 2. A great number of ſoldiers deſerted from the five regiments that laſt embarked from Corke for North America, before they could be ſecured on board the tranſports.

This day the lord mayor elect, aldermen, ſheriffs, and city officers, went to the lord chancellor's, in Great Ruſſel ſtreet, Bloomſbury, when the lord mayor elect was preſented to his lordſhip for his approbation by alderman Groſby, who was the ſenior alderman there; when his lordſhip informed them, his majeſty had been pleaſed to approve of the choice the livery had made.

Nov. 8. A bill is to be brought into parliament this week for the purpoſe of empowering governours Penn, Franklin, and the reſt of the governours of the American provinces, to grant indemnities for paſt offences, and receive the ſubmiſſion of all ſuch as are willing to ſubmit to the uſurpations of Great Britain.

We hear from Corke, that on Tueſday the 10th ult. at 1 o'clock, when the army were in their beds, without previous notice, a draught was made from the two regiments, and at 7 o'clock they were taken to Cove, and embarked for America. We are aſſured the 53d regiment does not conſiſt of more than 100 men.

To the honour of the Britiſh nation, there is ſtill ſome little degree of virtue exiſting. The unwearied endeavours of the worthy proteſting lords, the ſpirit of the freeholders of Middleſex, and the almoſt general patriotiſm of the livery of London, joined with the earneſt efforts of that pure ſociety, the London Aſſociation, may yet, by their perſeverance, in time, open the eyes of their fellow-ſubjects, and work a material change in the wretched ſituation of our affairs.

Yeſterday the Houſe of Lords took into conſideration the petition and addreſs to his majeſty from the American Congreſs, which was laid before the Houſe by the earl of Dartmouth.

A motion being made, that governour Penn be called to the bar and examined, the ſame paſſed in the negative, 56 againſt 22.

The duke of Richmond's motion, for a reconciliation with the colonies, paſſed in the negative, 42 againſt 21.

Great bets are laid in the city, that within ſix months one or both of the garriſons of Gibraltar and Mahon are ſurrendered either to the French or Spaniards.

HOUSE *of* COMMONS.

Yeſterday, a little before 3 o'clock, the ſpeaker took the chair, when the bill for continuing the duties on malt, mum, cider, and perry, was read the firſt time.

Mr. *Luttrell* made a long ſpeech, in which he conſidered the nature, principles, and ſpirit of government in general, and the conſtitution of this kingdom in particular; from which he concluded, that whenever the truſt delegated by the people was unjuſtly or oppreſſively exerciſed by the delegates, then the truſt ſhould naturally ceaſe, and the power revert to its firſt ſource, the people at large; that if this propoſition was allowed, it muſt alſo be admitted that Conventions, or General Aſſemblies of the people, were, in ſuch caſes, agreeable to the ſpirit of the conſtitution; and he obſerved, that we had ſeveral inſtances, in our hiſtory, of ſuch Aſſemblies; that much good had been effected by them, and much evil prevented; that ſome of our beſt princes had been raiſed to the throne, and our worſt kings depoſed, by means of a *Britiſh Congreſs*. He then made a motion to the following purport: "That the commiſſioners "which are to be ſent by his majeſty to "the different parts of America be empowered to treat with *any* Convention, "Congreſs, or Aſſembly of *one* or *more* "provinces, who may beſt be ſuppoſed "to underſtand the inclinations of the "people, without inquiring into the legality of the manner in which they had "been convened, in order that a ſpeedy "reconciliation might be effected, conſiſtent with the honour and intereſt of "Great Britain, and the requiſitions of "the colonies."

Sir *George Young* ſaid, that in every diſpaſſionate converſation which he had with gentlemen of either ſide of the Houſe, he found they were, to a man, anxious for a reconciliation with America. He was convinced, that every day's delay made this reconciliation more difficult; that the Congreſs ſeemed to him the moſt ſpeedy, as well as the moſt effectual medium, by which it could be attained; and as he regretted every hour that paſſed without an effort towards this happy object, he was deſirous to adopt this, or any other, or all meaſures calculated to promote a reconciliation.

The queſtion was then called for, and the motion rejected, without a diviſion.

Lord North aſſured the Houſe of Commons, "there was nothing he ſo much "wiſhed for, at the cloſe of his life, as "to have it in his power to boaſt of having a ſhare in the conciliation with the "colonies;" and it was obſerved the tears fell ſo faſt on his face, that, after his ſpeech, he was under the neceſſity of uſing his handkerchief.

This whining miniſter reminds us of a certain cardinal (Wolſey, a miniſter of ſtate) whoſe character has been drawn by Skakeſpeare; and it is ſaid he was never, but when he meant to ruin, *pitiful*. We wiſh there never may be found a ſecond

Wolſey, for the ſake of Britain and her colonies. The brave Americans are above accepting of *pity*; they are not ſo mean or pitiful; they will die firſt.

Nov. 9. An intelligent correſpondent ſays, he can take upon him to aſſure us that there are more *lottery tickets* in the poſſeſſion of the inhabitants of ſome *addreſſing towns* than in all the other towns in England put together.

It can hardly be doubted, unleſs the Americans receive propoſals of accommodation ſoon, but they will relinquiſh all hope of peace, and throw away the ſcabbard. They have been accuſed of entertaining views of independence; it is hard to ſay on what that accuſation is founded. Profeſſions of attachment to Great Britain can never be ſuited to advance ſuch a deſign. Beſides embarraſſing their own councils, and diffuſing among the people ſentiments of veneration and reſpect for the mother country, they muſt, ſo long as they are made uſe of, abſolutely preclude all hope of foreign aſſiſtance; for who will interpoſe in their favour while a reconciliation ſeems probable? If they aimed at independence, they would never talk of ſubmiſſion.

All the lords are ordered to be ſummoned on the farther conſideration of the petition and addreſs from the American Congreſs, which is to come on to-morrow.

Nov. 10. The king will review the 32d regiment of foot, commanded by col. Amherſt, on Monday next, on Putney common, previous to the embarking for Ireland.

It is ſaid the proportion of the militia for Scotland is to be 30,000 men. Lord North was ſtaggered at this demand in the Scotch, but ſir Gilbert Elliot and the ſolicitor-general inſiſt upon it, and they are ſupported by all their countrymen.

The battalions raiſing by lord Lovat's ſon are to conſiſt of 2000 men.

James Harris, eſq; his majeſty's miniſter at the court of Berlin, arrived in London on Monday laſt. He had but four days notice to ſettle his affairs, and leave that kingdom; but the reaſon is not yet known, although it is conjectured his Pruſſian majeſty intends making ſome incurſions into our German dominions.

Extract of a letter from Milford, *Nov.* 4.

"On the 30th of October, the commanding-officer of the regiments deſtined for America received orders to diſembark the troops till farther orders. It is talked here, that they are not to go to America till next ſpring."

Yeſterday the right hon. John Sawbridge, lord mayor of this city, went in the city barge, accompanied by the late lord mayor, and the different companies in their barges, by water, to Weſtminſter, where he was ſworn in at the Exchequer bar before the Curſitor Barons, and then returned to Guildhall, where a very ſumptuous entertainment was provided.

The DUKE of GLOUCESTER is certainly dead; the news is not declared, that miniſtry may have time to ſettle the diſpoſal of his places.

There is nothing ſo convincing in this miniſterial conduct of the certainty of miſcarriage, that all the experienced ſoldiers, admirals, ſailors, ſtateſmen, and orators, are in the oppoſition, which proves the oppoſite party have neither heads or hands to conduct the meaſures.

It is confidently aſſerted in the city, that the court of Portugal has entered into a treaty with the court of Spain, to give the Spaniards all the aſſiſtance in their power, in caſe they ſhould be at war with England, and the Spaniard are to give them the like aſſiſtance, in caſe they ſhould be attacked by any European power.

Several thouſand pairs of worſted ſtockings, and inſide flannel waiſtcoats, were ſhipped yeſterday on board a veſſel in the river bound to America, for the uſe of his majeſty's troops during the winter.

Nov. 17. On Wedneſday the Houſe of Commons went into a committee to conſider of the petition from the province of Nova Scotia, when they came to the following reſolutions, viz. "That the propoſitions contained in the addreſs, petition, and memorial of the Council and Houſe of Aſſembly of the province of Nova Scotia, of granting to his majeſty, in perpetuity, a duty of poundage, *ad valorem*, upon all commodities imported into ſaid province, not being the produce of the Britiſh dominions in Europe and America (bay ſalt only excepted) the ſaid duty to be under the diſpoſion of parliament," is fit to be accepted, and that the amount of ſaid duty ſhall be eight per cent. upon all ſuch commodities.

Lord North gave notice he had matter of great conſequence to impart to the Houſe, toward the latter end of the week.

"Orders were ſent Tueſday night to "Portſmouth for the Greyhound ſloop "of war, now in dock, and fitting for "America, to be got ready with all poſ-"ſible deſpatch. It is reported ſome "perſons are to go in this ſhip with pow-"ers to propoſe terms of reconciliation, "the events of which may be known "time enough to prevent the ſending "more forces in the ſpring.

A letter from Lancaſhire mentions the great damage done in thoſe parts by the late ſtorm. "I have been (ſays the writer) a ſpectator of dreadful havock among the ſhipping. Of ſix ſhips, returning from Cheſter fair, not one eſcaped; and a veſſel worth 40,000l. with ſeveral reſpectable paſſengers on board, ſunk before my eyes."

The Charming Sally, Wilſon, a tranſport, from London to Boſton, is loſt on the Goodwin Sands, and all the people periſhed.

Sir Jeffery Amherſt, general Harvey, and general Fraſer, it is ſaid, are all fixed on, and have agreed to go to America next ſpring, if the unhappy difference ſubſiſts ſo long betwen Great Britain and her colonies.

At 12 o'clock this day arrived a mail from New York, brought by the Harriot packet, capt. Lee, to Falmouth; ſhe has brought a great many letters. This is the laſt mail that will arrive from thence till farther orders.

The order of the day being yeſterday read in the Houſe of Commons, mr. Burke propoſed his much talked of plan for a reconciliation between the mother country and America. After very ably touching upon the general grounds of the diſpute, and pointing out the apparent errours of adminiſtration, this accompliſhed orator begged leave to introduce a reconciliatory bill, which he read to the Houſe, and was up full three hours and a half, in giving a full account of the reaſons, and their force, upon which every clauſe of his bill was framed, and the happy purport which it might effect. Capt. Walſingham, in a ſhort ſpeech, ſeconded mr. Burke's motion. A long and very intereſting debate enſued, which continued many hours.

Monday laſt mr. alderman Oliver gave notice to the Houſe of Commons, that he ſhould, on that day ſe'nnight, make a motion for an addreſs to his majeſty, requeſting him to impart to the Houſe who were the original authors and adviſers of the meaſures which have been purſued againſt America, before thoſe meaſures were propoſed to the Houſe.

On Friday, in the Upper Aſſembly, governour Penn, of Pennſylvania, was examined and gave very ſatisfactory anſwers to the queſtions put to him, after which, he was ordered to withdraw; when a member, after deſcanting on the neceſſity of an immediate conciliation, propoſed the laſt petition from the Continental Congreſs to the king as a baſis for a plan of accommodation, and moved, "that the ſaid "petition furniſhed grounds of conciliation "of the unhappy differences at preſent "ſubſiſting between Great Britain and "America, and that ſome mode ſhould "be immediately adopted for effectuating "ſo deſirable a purpoſe.

It is ſaid, that the examination of the great Quaker (governour Penn) has had a wonderful effect upon the minds of the majority in a certain Houſe. Many were obſerved to turn *pale* at the account he gave, how well the Americans were prepared for a long and tedious war with England; and when he declared how capable they were of making ſaltpetre, gunpowder, &c. caſting cannon, and making ſmall-arms, the whole aſſembly became QUAKERS. It is believed he will be equally ſucceſsful in the Lower Houſe, when he is called to his examination there, and convert at leaſt the Bedford party among the miniſtry; and if he cannot make the king's friends *friends* of Great Britain and her colonies, he will at leaſt make them QUAKERS.

The ſix tranſports that ſailed from the Downs laſt Thurſday are put into Plymouth, by contrary winds; and we are well aſſured, that the cattle on board die very faſt, owing to the different changes of the weather.

One of the tranſports with the Hanoverian troops on board is on ſhore on the Flemiſh banks, and from her ſituation it is thought ſhe cannot be got off.

Laſt night general Gage, and ſome other officers, whoſe names are not mentioned, arrived in town from Boſton. They bring moſt terrible accounts of the ſituation of our army there.

The information given at the bar of the Houſe of Lords, by governour Penn, deſerves very ſerious conſideration. The known character of that gentleman, for honour, probity, and moderation, being equally removed from faction and venality, renders what he aſſerts of much more importance than the accounts which have, from other quarters, been laid before the publick.

Lord Rochford retires upon a penſion of 3000l. per annum. A pretty moderate ſlice of the plum pudding of Old England.

Seven regiment of 650 men each, two bombs, and four frigates, are to ſail for Carolina the firſt of December; it being determined to attack the ſouthern provinces, while the American army is in the north. It is ſaid this expedition is undertaken at the requeſt of governour Martin, of North Carolina (brother to Target Martin, who ſhot mr. Wilkes) who has promiſed government great things, great ſupport, and ſucceſs, if they ſend him a proper force. Among other things, it is ſaid he has promiſed to raiſe 2000 men for the ſervice of the miniſtry in Carolina. If he has ſo much intereſt and influence in the province, why did he run away from it?

ST. JAMES'S, *Nov.* 10. His majeſty having been pleaſed to deliver the cuſtody of the privy ſeal to the right hon. William earl of Dartmouth, the oath of keeper of the privy ſeal was this day adminiſtered to him, and his lordſhip took his place at the board accordingly.

His majeſty having been pleaſed to appoint the right hon. Thomas viſcount Weymouth to be one of his majeſty's principal ſecretaries of ſtate, his lordſhip was this day, by his majeſty's command, ſworn one of his majeſty's principal ſecretaries of ſtate accordingly.

His majeſty having been pleaſed to appoint the right hon. lord George Sackville Germaine to be one of his majeſty's principal ſecretaries of ſtate, his lordſhip was this day, by his majeſty's command, ſworn one of his majeſty's principal ſecretaries of ſtate accordingly.

NEW YORK, *February* 1.

WE hear from Albany, that general Schuyler found at Johnſtown 5 or 600 men aſſembled, who, without reſiſtance, delivered up their arms; that he took from them 670 muſkets, nine pieces of loaded cannon, and brought off 15 priſoners. Sir John, to oblige our friend Indians, was releaſed, on his bond, and hoſtages.

The ſtoreſhip mentioned in our laſt, taken by the people in New Jerſey, is burthen about 400 tuns, commanded by capt. Dempſter, brother to a member of parliament of that name. Her cargo conſiſted of 120 chaldrons of coal, 100 butts of porter, 300 ſacks of potatoes, 10 pipes of ſour crout, 4 four-pounders, ſome powder and arms, and ſundry other goods, with 80 hogs, moſt of which died on the paſſage.

Large reinforcements are preparing in different parts, with the utmoſt expedition, for the army at Quebeck. An account of the repulſe of our little army there had been received at Cambridge.

WILLIAMSBURG, *Feb.* 16.

WE have undoubted intelligence, that the man of war lately arrived in Hampton road is the Roebuck, of 44 guns, capt. Hammond, lately from England, but laſt from Halifax, in Nova Scotia. She landed at that place Marriott Arburthnot, eſq; formerly commander of the Garland ſhip of war, on this ſtation, who is appointed commiſſary of the king's ſtores, and commodore, at Halifax. She brings intelligence of things being in a train of accommodation at home, every one ſeeming heartily diſpoſed to forward ſo benevolent and deſirable a purpoſe, by placing us as we were at the end of the laſt war. It is to be hoped, likewiſe, ſhould the miniſtry be really in earneſt to *ſheath the ſword*, that they will, without heſitation (having been the *aggreſſors*) *pay coſts*, or grant an *equivalent*.

The brigantine Anne, capt. Weſtcott, is gone up to Norfolk, from London. She brings letters and papers to Nov. 27th, which mention, that lord North had brought in a bill for the repeal of the *Boſton port bill*, the *fiſhery bill*, and that which relates to ſending *ſuſpected perſons over ſea for trial*, beſides ſome other particulars which relate to all the colonies; that the general cry of the nation was for PEACE, and that our friends in both Houſes of Parliament were exerting themſelves to bring about a happy reconciliation, to effect which they had been joined by ſeveral members of the court party, who, it is to be hoped, will be able, before it is too late, to ſave the *ſinking veſſel* of the ſtate, and ſafely moor her in the *wiſhed for port*. ------Which GOD grant, and that this *unnatural conteſt* may be ſettled to the *ſatisfaction of both countries*, upon a *ſolid and permanent foundation*.

Commiſſioners, we hear, are to be ſent to the different colonies, who, paſt doubt, will be referred by them to the Continental Congreſs, into whoſe hands they have delegated all power, and in whoſe wiſdom and virtue we may repoſe all confidence, either to reſtore us peace on honourable terms, or proſecute a war ſo unjuſtly begun on the part of Great Britain, and ſo cruelly and treacherouſly carried on.---- The beſt way to make peace is with ſwords in our hands, that we may be prepared againſt every contingency.

On Tueſday laſt the Hon. Committee of Safety made choice of the following gentlemen to command the artillery company, viz. James Innis, captain; Charles Harriſon, 1ſt lieutenant; Edward Carrington, 2d lieutenant; and Samuel Denny, 3d lieutenant.

Under the Cambridge head, it is ſaid that general Clinton, with a conſiderable number of grenadiers and light infantry, ſailed from Boſton, the 19*th ult. ſuppoſed for Virginia.*

This day, between 12 and 1 o'clock, a firing of cannon was heard by ſome people at York, ſuppoſed to be at or near Hampton.

Mr. PURDIE,

A GENTLEMAN from Norfolk having ſaid, that he was aſſured lord Dunmore had written a letter to the hon. Richard Corbin, in which he expreſſed the ſincereſt regard for this country, and the moſt ardent wiſhes for a reconciliation, and had offered his ſervices to the colony as mediator between her and Great Britain, and this gentleman's report being confirmed by ſome circumſtances which have happened in Williamſburg and York, ſome people have been led from hence into a fond belief that his lordſhip is ſincere, and that we may ſoon hope for an accommodation; but as to his ſincerity, we all know how much dependence is to be put on that. We can recollect his profeſſions of regard for our country before he laid his damnable plot with Conolly, and before he iſſued his more execrable proclamation. We all remember his profeſſions when he ſent his lady home in a little wretched leaky veſſel, that ſhe might appear to be flying from the vengeance of enraged ſavages. We remember his ſolemn proteſtations to our Aſſembly, when both Houſes earneſtly invited him to return to the ſeat of his reſidence. We remember this, and muſt be fools not to know that his lordſhip could not give a ſtronger proof of his averſion to an accommodation. What then has made this wonderful change in his lordſhip? Is it not poſſible that he may have received ſome hints of a recall, and may be ſtruck with the difference between the figure he may cut upon his return, in caſe of an accommodation, and that of governour Penn? But on what are our hopes of an accommodation founded? The addreſſes and votes of Parliament leave no room for hope, and all reports tending to excite in us an expectation of PEACE ſhould be ſuſpected as ſo many plots to ſurpriſe us, and take us off our guard.

Mr. PURDIE,

THE people who have unfortunately loſt all, or a great part of their fortune, by the deſtruction of Norfolk, and bear their loſs with fortitude and complacency, appear in the moſt glorious light. They will be for ever remembered, with love and admiration, by every generous mind, and friend to the liberties of mankind, to the lateſt ages. Our ſoldiers keeping their ground under ſo many ſevere cannonades, chaſtiſing and repulſing the enemy in every attack, places their *ſpirit* in a high point of view; and the patience and reſignation of the inhabitants, when they found it was neceſſary to abandon and deſtroy the remains of the town, puts them on a level with the inhabitants of Saguntum. Such brave troops, and ſuch noble diſintereſted citizens, muſt immortaliſe Virginia. Our enemies will now ſee their folly in attempting to terrify us into ſubmiſſion, by threatening to burn our houſes and towns. The world will laugh at their folly, deteſt their cruelty, and applaud our virtue.

A VIRGINIAN.

Mr. PURDIE,

IT is hoped that ſome of the gentlemen at leaſt, who have advertiſed their intention of re-emigrating to Britain, will have honour enough to do this country juſtice. In order to this, let them communicate to their friends the reſolutions of our General Convention in Auguſt laſt, which contain a full proof of the diſpoſition of the Virginians towards all ſtrangers reſiding amongſt them. The indulgencies therein offered were more than any particular ſet of men in a ſociety could reaſonably have expected. How theſe indulgencies have been abuſed, a number of recent facts, of publick notoriety, will beſt evince.

THE *committees of ſuch counties as have not returned a liſt of their number of people to* Robert Carter Nicholas, *eſq; or to me, are deſired forthwith to tranſmit ſuch liſts to me in* Williamſburg.

(2) *EDMUND PENDLETON.*

Feb. 15, 1776.

TREASURY OFFICE, *Feb.* 16, 1776.

PURSUANT to the authority given to me by the General Convention, I have appointed mr. EDMUND RANDOLPH to ſign the treaſury notes of the denomination of 1s. 3d.

RO. C. NICHOLAS, treaſurer.

CHARLES CITY, *Feb.* 15, 1776.

THE *ſubſcriber having removed to* Leſter's *ferry, in this county, begs leave to aſſure the publick, that the ſtricteſt attention will be paid to the ſpeedy paſſage of travellers, who may always be accommodated at his houſe, ſhould they incline, with every requiſite for themſelves and horſes.*

1‖ *FREDERICK BRYAN.*

To be SOLD

A GOOD *negro COOK, who is a healthy fellow under* 40 *years of age, can rouſt and boil very well, and underſtands made diſhes, with baking of bread and pickling. He is ſold for no other fault than having lately diſobliged his maſter, by going off ſome little time. His price is* 120*l. on* 12 *months credit, or* 110*l. ready money. For farther particulars, inquire of the printer.*

WANTED,

A TUTOR *in a gentleman's family, who is well acquainted with* Latin *and the* Mathematicks. *None need apply without proper credentials. Such a perſon, beſides a genteel ſalary, will have his waſhing, lodging, and mending, found him; and he may keep a horſe if he chooſes it, or have one found him for recreation, or neceſſary buſineſs. For farther particulars, inquire of the printer.*

WILLIAMSBURG, *Feb.* 16, 1776.

I *INTEND for the provincial camp at* Cambridge, *in a few weeks.*

1‖ *WILLIAM DAWSON.*

SUFFOLK, *February* 13.

I INTEND to leave the colony.

EBEN. STOTT.

FEBRUARY 15, 17[illegible]

I WILL give three pounds per month wages to any able SEAMEN that will apply to me, near *Richmond* town, in a ſhort time.

(2) ISAAC YOUNGHUSBAND.

PETERSBURG, *Feb.* 5, 1776.

I INTEND to leave the colony immediately. EMANUEL WALKER.

To be SOLD at York *town, on* Monday, *the* 19*th inſtant* (February)

SUNDRY beds, bedſteads, and other houſehold furniture, the property of an orphan. Twelve months credit will be allowed for all ſums above 5l. the purchaſers giving bond and ſecurity to the acting executor. The bonds to bear intereſt from the day of ſale, unleſs punctually diſcharged when due.

STRAYED from *Willis's* creek, near mr. *Alexander Trent's*, in *Cumberland* county, about the firſt of *November* laſt, a *blood-bay filly*, riſing 4 years old, not branded, 4 feet 9 inches high. A ſatisfactory reward will be made to any perſon that will deliver the ſaid filly to

DAVID COUPLAND.

STRAYED or STOLEN, out of col. *Byrd's* paſture, the 17th of *January*, two *dark bay horſes*, with broom tails, and a ſtar in each of their foreheads. One of them has three white feet, and the other two. Whoever brings the ſaid horſes to me, in *Williamſburg*, ſhall have ſix dollars for each; and if ſtolen 10l. on conviction and execution of the thief.

SAMUEL BOUSH.

GOOD OLD SPIRITS

TO be sold by the barrel, by the subscriber, at mr. *Edward Stabler's* in *Petersburg*, for ready money only.

(2) JOSEPH WHITEHEAD.

To be SOLD,

THE remaining part of the tract in *Louisa* county, containing 672 acres, belonging to the estate of mr. *Francis Smith*, deceased, and formerly advertised with a particular description of the same. Twelve months credit will be allowed the purchaser, upon giving bond and security to THOMAS SMITH, executor.

To be SOLD,

THE plantation where I now live, containing 320 acres of land, about three miles above *Petersburg*, whereon is a large new brick dwelling-house 54 feet by 32, with four rooms, and a flush passage, below stairs, and five rooms above, very commodiously contrived, and the building well executed, a brick kitchen 32 feet by 16, two rooms below, and two above stairs, with all other necessary offices, in good repair, and several orchards of the best kind of fruit trees. This seat being well known, I think a more accurate description unnecessary. The time of payment will be made easy to the purchaser, and the terms known by applying to mr. *Thomas Ruffin*, or

(tf) ROBERT NEWSUM.

TAPPAHANOCK, *Feb.* 2, 1776.

JUST arrived from *Antigua*, and will sail for that island about the 20th instant, the brigantine COMMERCE, *John Robinson* master; she will go in ballast, and havegood accommodations for passengers. For passage apply to the master on board, or to

ARCHIBALD RITCHIE.

BLANDFORD, *Jan.* 26, 1776.

To be SOLD at Blandford, *on* Friday *the first of* March *next, to the highest bidder*,

ELEVEN valuable NEGRO FELLOWS, among whom is a very good ship carpenter; also two schooner FLATS, one 85 the other 70 hhds. burthen, with their boats; and two smaller FLATS, burthen 35 and 32 hhds. Six months credit will be allowed, the purchasers giving bond with approved security to

THOMAS CRAWFORD.
JOSHUA POYTHRESS, jun.

I HAVE lost (by what means I cannot discover) FIFTY SIX POUNDS, out of a large quantity of money very lately received from the treasury office in sheets, I can assert, with positiveness, that the bills below were part; and as it may lead to a discovery, and tend to do justice, I hope I may, without offence to any, beg that any person having these bills will be pleased to trace their progress, and communicate the result of their inquiries to mr. *James Mercer* of *Fredericksburg*, but generally (as a member of the Committee of Safety) in *Williamsburg*, or to their very humble servant,

JOHN HARVIE.

2 Bills £. 12 no. 142
14108 and 14109
2 - - £. 1 - - - - the same numbers.
2 - - £. 8 - - 155
15401 and 15402
2 - - £. 1 - - - - the same numbers.

All on paper called the *James* river bank.

AYLETT'S warehouse, *Jan.* 25, 1776.

FOR *sale, on easy terms, about* 600*l. sterling worth of* European *goods. Application may be made to* Archibald Govan *in* Hanover *town, or to*

JAMES GOVAN.

THE *Committee of Safety wish to contract with proper persons for supplying the troops with provisions to be stationed between* York *river and* Rappahannock, *also one regiment to be stationed in the lower part of the* Northern Neck, *for one year. Any persons willing to enter into such a contract are desired to communicate their proposals as soon as possible, either personally to the Committee, or by letter to the President.*

JOHN PENDLETON, jun. clerk.

February 9. 1776.

AYLETT'S, *Feb.* 8, 1776.

I INTEND to leave the colony immediately. JOHN M'TAGGART.

AYLETT'S, *Feb.* 8, 1776.

I INTEND to leave the colony immediately. THOMAS KERR.

NORFOLK, *Feb.* 1, 1776.

I INTEND to leave the colony for a few months.

ARCHIBALD CAMPBELL.

CULPEPER, *Jan.* 21, 1776.

I INTEND to leave the colony immediately.

ROBERT BOYD.

FALMOUTH, *Jan.* 31, 1776.

THE subscriber intending to leave the colony early in the spring, and being desirous to have every account upon his books properly adjusted before that time, earnestly entreats all persons who have had dealings with him, or his predecessors, on account of mess. *Bogle, Somervell*, and co. merchants in *Glasgow*, at their store in this place, to come and settle them as soon as possible, that no dispute may hereafter arise. GEORGE HAMILTON.

DUMFRIES, *Jan.* 29, 1776.

I INTEND soon to leave the colony.

JOHN RIDDILL.

COMMITTED to the publick jail in *Williamsburg*, a certain *Walter Clarke*, an *Irishman*, supposed to be a servant of mr. *John Campbell*, merchant, near *New London*, in *Bedford*. He is about 5 feet 6 or 7 inches high, about 21 years of age, has black hair, and is a pert forward fellow. The owner is desired to apply for him within one month from this date, and pay charges, or he will be discharged.

PETER PELHAM, jailer.

FREDERICKSBURG, *Jan.* 24, 1776.

THE *commissioners of the* GUN MANUFACTORY *want a considerable quantity of* BRASS, *for mountings. Any* old brass *(not mixed with bell metal) will do. Mr.* Robert Nicolson *of* Williamsburg *will receive, and pay for, any quantity that may be delivered there; and the commissioners beg the attention of other gentlemen to this necessary article. The cash will be paid, on notice, by*

(4) *The* COMMISSIONERS.

WILLIAMSBURG, *Feb.* 1, 1776.

THE *subscriber has a large assortment of* EUROPEAN GOODS, *which he will dispose of on reasonable terms, for* cash *only.* *GEORGE REID.*

*** *I have three large* SEINES, *which I will sell cheap, for cash.*

WILLIAMSBURG, *Feb.* 2, 1776.

THE *subscriber intends moving up to* Fredericksburg, *where he will carry on the stocking making business to a greater extent than formerly. He will be much obliged to those who please to favour him with their work, and makes no doubt but what work he does will meet with the approbation of the publick, for which he will expect* ready money.

ADAM ALLAN.

MECKLENBURG county, *Jan.* 1776.

THE subscriber, from long experience, being fully convinced that the trusting plantations and slaves to the management of a set of people calling themselves *overseers*, will never produce any thing but ruin and destruction, is therefore determined to draw the management of what few slaves he possesses within the compass of his own personal abilities in looking over them, and, by this determination, has, and will have by next fall, between 20 and 30 very beautiful tenements, with a plantation to each, to rent out, either for a single year, or term of years, and can supply the tenants with corn, wheat, fodder, and stock of all kinds.

Any woman of good character, who understands house-keeping, teaching young children to read, girls the sempstress business, embroidering, *&c.* and comes well recommended, shall meet with very agreeable and satisfactory encouragement by applying to

(tf) MATTHEW MARABLE.

WARWICK, *Feb.* 1, 1776.

I INTEND to leave the colony immediately. JAMES FARLIE.

URBANNA, *Jan.* 25, 1776.

THE subscriber having removed from *Capahosick* ferry, begs leave to return his most grateful thanks to all gentlemen and others for their favours while he lived at that place; and, being now settled in the house in this town formerly occupied by mr. *Hugh Walker*, he hopes for a continuance of their favours, and shall do every thing in his power to merit them. THOMAS HARWOOD.

TUCKAHO, *Jan.* 29, 1776.

GOOD encouragement will be given to a WEAVER, that understands his business well, by applying to the subscriber, living in *Goochland* county.

THOMAS M. RANDOLPH.

COMMITTED to *Northumberland* jail, the 31st of *November* last, a white man who says his name is *BENJAMIN HAWKINS*, and that he came into this country in the year 1767, and served his time with mr. *Harpiron* of *Dunmore* county. He is a native of *England*, about 5 feet 10 inches high, has a down look, thin visage, and dark hair; he is clothed in a lead-coloured coat of the country manufactory, a blue jacket, buckskin breeches, old coarse hat, and shoes and stockings. The owner is desired to pay charges, and take him away. The JAILER.

TAKEN up on Ward's *fork, in Charlotte, a BLACK STEER about 3 years old, marked with a slit in the right ear, and swallow-fork and under-keel in the left; also a PIED COW and her CALF, marked with an under and over-keel in the right ear, and a smooth crop in the left. Posted and appraised, the cow and calf to* 45*s. and the steer to* 40*s.*

JOHN JONES.

TAKEN up on *Goldmine* creek, in *Louisa*, a BAY HORSE about 4 feet 5 inches high, has a small star in his forehead, some saddle spots, a few white hairs in his upper lip, trots, had a bell on tied with a stirrup leather, and branded on the near buttock R. Posted, and appraised to 6*l.*

WILLIAM WHITE.

TAKEN up in *York* county, a white flea-bitten horse about 14 hands high, with white face and eyes, his body whiter than his other parts, his hoofs white, his mane, which is thin, hangs on the off side, he has a short broom tail, paces naturally, was shod before, and is branded, but the brand cannot be made out. Posted, and appraised to 50*s.*

FLEMING BATES.

ARTICLES of Intelligence, Essays, Advertisements, *&c.* are thankfully received for this Paper, the Price of which is 12*s.* 6*d.* per Annum; Advertisements inserted as usual. PRINTING WORK done with Care and Expedition, and on reasonable Terms.

FRIDAY, February 16, 1776. } SUPPLEMENT. { No. 55.

The ſpeech of the Lord Mayor, JOHN WILKES, eſq; laſt Thurſday, in the Houſe of Commons, on the motion for an addreſs to the king.

Mr. SPEAKER,

I ENTIRELY agree with the honourable gentleman, who ſeconded the motion for an addreſs to his majeſty, that every man ought now to ſpeak out; and, in a moment ſo important as the preſent, to the whole empire, I think it ill becomes the dignity and duty of parliament to loſe itſelf in ſuch a fulſome adulatory addreſs to the throne as that now propoſed. We ought rather, ſir, to approach our ſovereign with ſound and wholeſome advice, and even with remonſtrances againſt the conduct of his miniſters, who have precipitated the nation into an unjuſt, ruinous, felonious, and murderous war. I call the war with our brethren in America an *unjuſt, felonious war*, becauſe the primary cauſe, and confeſſed origin of it, is the attempt to take their money from them without their conſent, contrary to the common rights of all mankind, and thoſe great fundamental principles of the Engliſh conſtitution for which Hampden bled. I aſſert, ſir, that it is in conſequence a murderous war, becauſe it is an attempt to deprive men of their lives for ſtanding up in the juſt cauſe of the defence of their property, and their clear rights. It becomes no leſs a murderous war, with reſpect to many of our fellow-ſubjects of this iſland; for every man, either of the navy or army, who has been ſent by government to America, and has fallen a victim in this unnatural and unjuſt conteſt, has been murdered by adminiſtration, and his blood lies at their door. Such a war, I fear, ſir, will draw down the vengeance of Heaven upon this devoted nation.

I think this war, ſir, fatal and ruinous to our country. It abſolutely annihilates the only great ſource of our wealth, which we enjoyed unrivalled by other nations, and deprives us of the fruits of the laborious induſtry of near three millions of ſubjects, which centred here. That commerce has already taken its flight; and our American merchants are now deploring the conſequences of a wretched policy, which has been purſued to their deſtruction. It is, ſir, no leſs ruinous with regard to the enormous expenſe of the fleets and armies neceſſary for this nefarious undertaking; ſo that we are waſting our preſent wealth, while we are deſtroying the ſources of all we might have in future.

I ſpeak, ſir, as a friend to England and America, but ſtill more to univerſal liberty, and the rights of all mankind. I truſt no part of the ſubjects of this vaſt empire will ever ſubmit to be ſlaves. I am ſure the Americans are too high-ſpirited to brook the idea. Your whole power, and that of your allies, if you had any, and of all the German troops you can hire, cannot effect ſo wicked a purpoſe. The conduct of the preſent adminiſtration has already wreſted the *ſceptre of America* out of the hands of our ſovereign, and you have now ſcarcely a *ſeaport* left in the whole northern continent. More than half the empire is already loſt, and almoſt all the reſt is in confuſion and anarchy. The miniſtry have brought our ſovereign into a more diſagreeable ſituation than any crowned head now living. He alone has already loſt, by their fatal councils, more territory than the three great united powers of Ruſſia, Auſtria, and Pruſſia, have together robbed Poland of, and by every acts of violence and injuſtice from adminiſtration.

England was never engaged in a conteſt of ſuch importance to her moſt valuable concerns and poſſeſſions. We are fighting for the ſubjugation of a country infinitely more extended than our own, of which every day increaſes the wealth, the natural ſtrength, and population. Should not we ſucceed, it will be a boſom friendſhip ſoured to hate and reſentment. We ſhall be conſidered as their moſt implacable enemies, an eternal ſeparation will ſucceed, and the grandeur of the Britiſh empire paſs away. Succeſs ſeems to me not equivocal, but impoſſible. However we may differ among ourſelves, they are *perfectly united*. On this ſide the Atlantick, party rage unhappily divides us; *but one ſoul animates the vaſt northern continent of America*, the General Congreſs, and each provincial aſſembly. An appeal has been made to the ſword; and, at the cloſe of the laſt campaign, what have we conquered? Bunker's hill, with the loſs of 1200 men! Are we to pay as dearly for the reſt of America? The idea of conqueſt is as romantick as unjuſt.

The honourable gentleman who moved the addreſs ſays, "the Americans have been treated with lenity." Was your Boſton port bill a meaſure of lenity? Was your fiſhery bill a meaſure of lenity? Was your bill for taking away the charter of Maſſachuſetts Bay a meaſure of lenity, or even juſtice? I omit your many other groſs provocations and inſults, by which the brave Americans have been driven into their preſent ſtate. He aſſerts, that they avow a diſpoſition to be independent. On the contrary, ſir, all the declarations, both of the late and the preſent Congreſs, uniformly tend to this one object, *of being put on the ſame footing they were in at the year* 1763. This has been their only demand, from which they have never varied.

Their daily prayers are, for *liberty*, *peace*, and *ſafety*. I uſe the words of the Congreſs of the laſt year. They juſtly expect to be put on an equal footing with the other ſubjects of the empire. If you confine all but trade to yourſelves, ſay they, if you make a monopoly of our commerce, if you ſhut all other ports of the world againſt us, tax us not too. If you do, then give us a free trade, ſuch as you enjoy yourſelves; let us have equal advantages of commerce, all other ports open to us; then we can, and will, cheerfully pay taxes.

It muſt give, ſir, every man, who loves this country, the deepeſt concern at the naming, in the addreſs, foreign troops, Hanoverians and Heſſians, who are now called to interfere in our domeſtick quarrels, not to dwell this day on the illegality of the meaſure. The militia, indeed, are now employed; and that noble inſtitution is at preſent complimented by miniſters who hate the very name of a militia, becauſe the embodying of thoſe forces enables adminiſtration to butcher more of our fellow-ſubjects in America.

Sir, I diſapprove not only the evil ſpirit of the whole addreſs, but likewiſe the wretched adulation of almoſt every part of it. My wiſh and hope therefore is, that it will be rejected by the Houſe, and that another dutiful, yet decent, manly addreſs, will be preſented to the King, praying his majeſty that he would ſheath the ſword, prevent the farther effuſion of the blood of our fellow-ſubjects, adopt ſome mode of negotiation with the General Congreſs, in compliance with their repeated petition, and thereby reſtore peace and harmony to this diſtracted empire.

At a meeting of the committee for the county of Prince Edward, *Jan.* 25, 1776.

JOHN HAMBLIN, an inhabitant of this county, having been ſummoned to appear before this committee, in conſequence of an information lodged againſt the ſaid Hamblin, as having acted as an enemy to the American cauſe, appeared, and acknowledged, that once he was unfriendly to the meaſures adopted in America, but that ſince he had been convinced of his errour, and would for the future conduct himſelf on every occaſion as a friend to his country, as far as his abilities would permit him, and hoped for the forgiveneſs of this committee, and his countrymen in general; and promiſed, willingly, to ſign the aſſociation of the Honourable the Continental Congreſs, which he had hitherto refuſed.

Reſolved, that, from the contrition of the ſaid Hamblin, he be for the future conſidered as a friend to his country, and he is recommended to the publick for their forgiveneſs.

JOHN NASH, jun. chairman *pro tempore*.
BENJAMIN LAWSON, clerk.

At a meeting of the committee for the county of Prince Edward, *Jan.* 15, 1776.

SAMUEL BURKS, an inhabitant of this county, having been ſummoned to attend this committee, in conſequence of an information lodged againſt the ſaid Burks, on ſuſpicion of his having acted as an enemy to America, appeared, and after hearing the teſtimony of ſeveral witneſſes, ſummoned and examined relative to mr. Burks's conduct, it appears to this committee, that the report was altogether falſe and groundleſs, and that the ſaid Burks is entirely innocent of the charge: Wherefore, he is honourably acquitted.

Ordered, that a copy of the above reſolves be tranſmitted to mr. Alexander Purdie, and entreat him to publiſh the ſame.

JOHN NASH, jun. chairman *pro tempore*.
BENJAMIN LAWSON, clerk.

At a committee appointed and held for Hanover *county, at the courthouſe, on* Thurſday *the 25th of* January, 1776.

BENNETT White appeared before the committee, agreeable to a ſummons, to anſwer ſundry charges lodged againſt him, which are as follows: "That he had been guilty of having a "ſubſcription ball; that he aſſured his "ſubſcribers, that if the committee ſhould "notice it he would take the whole blame "on himſelf; and that he had allowed "gaming in his houſe." Which charges being examined into, were ſufficiently proved; but the ſaid Bennett White declaring his unealineſs for having done any thing that had cauſed the diſpleaſure of the committee, begged that they would paſs it over, as the firſt offence, and that he would pay the ſtricteſt regard to the aſſociation in future, as well as demean himſelf, in every reſpect, *a firm friend to the rights of America*. Theſe conceſſions being deemed ſatisfactory, mr. White was diſcharged from farther proſecution.

Extract from the proceedings.
WILLIAM BENTLEY, clerk.

AT a meeting of the committee, on Monday the 29th of January, the following gentlemen were choſen officers to the company of regulars to be raiſed in this county, viz. Richard Clough Anderſon, captain; John Anderſon, 1ſt lieutenant; William Bentley, 2d lieutenant; and Robert Tompkins, enſign.

Extract from the proceedings.
WILLIAM BENTLEY, clerk.

THE committee of the county of Caroline, averſe to rendering any perſon a publick ſpectacle of contempt, except for a flagrant breach of the general aſſociation, and having once excuſed a certain Rodham Kenner, of the ſaid county, for

deviating from the rules preſcribed by the Congreſs, now find themſelves under the neceſſity of publiſhing to the world the *infamous behaviour* of the ſaid Kenner, who, forgetting the former clemency of this committee, has a ſecond time violated the aſſociation, by continuing to *game unlawfully*, and to *entice others*, firſt by making them drunk, to become partakers of his guilt. Theſe circumſtances being fully proved to the committee, they would be forgetful of their duty if they did not adviſe the people of their own county in particular, and of the colony in general, to avoid all manner of dealings with the ſaid Rodham Kenner, and to treat him in future as every enemy to American liberty deſerves.

ANTHONY THORNTON, chairman.
pro tempore
Samuel Harwes, jun. clerk

At a meeting of the ſub-committee of the upper diſtrict of King *and* Queen *county, on* Saturday *the 9th of* December, 1775.

WILLIAM LYNE having been charged before this committee, by James Jones, jun. with endeavouring to prejudice the minute ſervice, and exciting mutiny, the ſaid William Lyne, having heretofore been ſummoned, now appeared, and on examining ſeveral witneſſes, it appears to this committee, that on the day the diſtrict committee choſe officers for the regular and minute ſervice the ſaid Lyne imprudently dropped expreſſions tending to injure the minute ſervice. We believe he had no intention of exciting mutiny; and that, from a review of his conduct, he appears to be *a friend to American liberty*.

Ordered, that a copy of theſe proceedings be tranſmitted to the publick printer of this colony, to be inſerted in the Virginia Gazette.

BERNARD TODD, clerk.

SUSSEX COUNTY.

COMMITTEE CHAMBER, *Jan* 29, 1776.

THIS committee, from tender feelings for their poor ſuffering and diſtreſſed brethren of the borough of Norfolk, who (from their ſmall poſſeſſions, and daily labour, were enabled to ſupport themſelves, their wives, and tender infants) are, by the tyrannical, cruel, and deſtructive executioner of miniſterial vengeance, lord Dunmore, and his banditti of blacks and Scotch Tories and Jacobites, reduced to the moſt affecting want of every neceſſary ſupport of life, HAVE *reſolved* to exert themſelves (in which they have the pleaſure to find their conſtituents zealouſly joining them) in providing houſes for the reception of as many of thoſe poor people as they can, with a ſufficient quantity of land to cultivate; to which this committee, in the moſt effectionate manner, invite them, hoping thereby, in ſome meaſure, to alleviate their anxiety, and remove their diſtreſſes, in being thus provided for by their brethren beyond the reach of lord Dunmore's oppreſſive hand, and the dreadful effects of his nocturnal deſigns and robberies, declaring, at the ſame time, that this invitation does not proceed from thoſe baſe, ungenerous, and ſelfiſh views ſuggeſted by his lordſhip, in his late publication, but from motives that his lordſhip and his abetters appear to be entire ſtrangers to.

AUGUSTINE CLAIBORNE, chairman.

At a committee held for Chesterfield *county, Dec.* 6, 1775.

MR. Edward Johnſton of Mancheſter appeared, upon ſummons, to anſwer a charge againſt him, of having paſſed to Norfolk in violation of a paſſport granted him for his ſafe conduct to col. Woodford's camp.

Upon hearing evidence, and mr. Johnſton's reaſons for his conduct, the committee are of opinion that he has wilfully violated the proclamation of the Committee of Safety, and the promiſe he made under which he obtained the paſſport; whereupon it is ordered by the committee, that the ſaid Edward Johnſton do not depart this county without the leave of the committee, except to Hanover court, to return by Saturday next, of which order notice was given him.

Extract from the minutes.

JERMAN BAKER, clerk.

At a committee held for Chesterfield *county Jan.* 5, 1776,

MR. Edward Johnſton of Mancheſter appeared, upon a charge againſt him, of having declared his determination, in caſe he was preſſed to take arms in the preſent conteſt between Great Britain and the united colonies of America, that he would join the governour. Several witneſſes were ſworn, and a depoſition of mr. Thomas Bates was read. Upon hearing of the whole matter, the committee are unanimouſly of opinion that he is not guilty of the offence he ſtood charged with; and alſo ordered, that he be diſcharged from the injunction laid upon him by the committee at their laſt meeting.

Extract from the minutes.

JERMAN BAKER, clerk.

At a meeting of the committee of Spotſylvania *county, at the town-houſe in* Fredericksburg, *the 24th day of* January, 1776.

P R E S E N T,

FIELDING LEWIS, eſq; chairman, and 19 members.

THE ſaid committee proceeded to the choice of officers to command two companies of regulars to be raiſed in the ſaid county, agreeable to an ordinance of the Hon. Convention; whereupon the following gentlemen were choſen by ballot, viz. George Stubblefield, and Oliver Towles, captains; Robert Dudley, and Nathaniel Fox, 1ſt lieutenants; Charles Tutt, and Peter Minor, 2d lieutenants; Benjamin Winſlow, jun. and Joſeph Holladay, jun. enſigns.

Extract from the minutes,

JOHN CHEW, jun. clerk.

Mr. ALEX. PURDIE,

THE committee of Hanover county having underſtood, that reports have been propagated reflecting on their conduct with regard to the ſteps taken by them to prevent diſorder and confuſion in the county, occaſioned by the probability of a ſcarcity of ſalt; and, that the publick may be ſatisfied as to the rectitude of their conduct, they have directed me to deſire you will publiſh, in your next gazette, their proceedings relative thereto, hereunto annexed, which you will please to comply with. I am your moſt humble ſervant,

WILLIAM BENTLEY, clerk.

HANOVER COUNTY.

In COMMITTEE, *December* 12, 1775.

WHEREAS it is repreſented to this committee, that ſeveral perſons have, of their own accord, gone about, in a diſorderly manner, to ſearch for ſalt, and have taken the ſame where it could not be well ſpared; and this committee taking under their conſideration the above alarm, occaſioned by the ſcarcity thereof, and being willing and deſirous, as far as in their power, to preſerve peace and good order, and to prevent riots and tumults:

Reſolved therefore, that upon application being made to any three or more of this committee, that they will ſearch all ſuſpected places within this county, in the moſt decent and reſpectful manner; and if they ſhall find more than is ſufficient for a perſon's own uſe, they will do therein as to them ſhall ſeem beſt and expedient, and report the ſame to this committee. And if any perſon or perſons whatſoever, within their juriſdiction, ſhall preſume, or offer, without the authority aforeſaid, to go about to ſearch for ſalt at any publick or private places, that the committee will uſe their utmoſt endeavours to ſuppreſs the ſame, by ſeizures and meaſures as they ſhall think proper, and hold the perſons guilty thereof to the publick, for contempt of peace, juſtice, and good order.

And that no perſons offending herein may plead ignorance for an excuſe, *Ordered*, that the clerk of this committee do cauſe a copy of this order to be ſet up at every publick place in this county, and be alſo publiſhed on ſome Lord's day at the ſeveral churches in the ſaid county, by the miniſters or readers thereof.

Signed, by order of the committee,

WILLIAM BENTLEY, clerk.

Mr. PURDIE,

I AM glad to find, by your laſt paper, that col. Carter of Stafford goes on ſo proſperouſly with the manufacture of ſaltpetre; "to which (he obſerves) were "people in general to pay a proper atten"tion, Virginia might pay her quota of "the expenſes of the war by it." The quantity he at preſent makes, and the probability of making a much larger, "he hopes will add ſpirit to our glorious "cauſe." Now could an eaſy method be adopted from the ſaltpetre (the making and refining of which, from your publication of Jer. Brown's method, and from col. Carter's information, is, or may be eaſily underſtood) to make a ſpeedy and ſufficient ſupply of gunpowder, it would, I hope, add ſucceſs, as well as ſpirit, to the beſt of cauſes; and, to do this, nothing but a ſufficient quantity of ſulphur is wanting, and that want, I have been told (though I ſhould be obliged to any one who, through the channel of your paper, will give me particular information) may be ſupplied, either from ſulphur of our own native produce, or large quantities imported, either into this or ſome neighbouring province.

Saltpetre, the chief ingredient, being thus eaſily obtained, if the committee of each reſpective county could make a collection of ſulphur ſufficient to allow each white man in their county only the inconſiderable quantity of three ounces, the whole country might be ſupplied with that neceſſary article, in abundance, in a very few days; ſince every man, after he is furniſhed with the ingredients, may make, or cauſe to be made, a pound and a half of good gunpowder, for himſelf, in one day, by a method which I myſelf have tried with ſucceſs. To make gunpowder by hand, take 15 ounces of ſaltpetre, 3 ounces of ſulphur, 3 ounces of well burnt charcoal (I think pine the beſt) powder each article ſeparately, very fine; then mix them in a large mortar; beat them continually, after moiſtening, for 12 hours; to grain it, have a ſifter, with a ſheepſkin bottom, burnt full of holes, with a fork, the ſize you will have the grain; make the paſte into balls, as big as walnuts; put them into the ſifter, with a wooden ball, of about half a pound weight, which, being moved to and fro, will force the powder through the holes, and form the grain; dry it well, on a linen cloth, or clean plank. N. B. It will very much facilitate the labour if you have a wooden mortar, ſuch as hominy is uſually beat in, fixed under the end of a pole, or ſpring, juſt as a turner's lath; have a wooden peſtle fixed to this, ſo as to fall perpendicularly into the mortar; have an auger hole bored through the peſtle, fitted with a pin, at about a foot from the lower end, which will ſerve for handles.

A friend to the American cauſe.

*** Since the publication of the above, the printer has got the favour of mr. *Thomas Miller*, of *Cumberland*, to aſſiſt in collecting the ſubſcriptions due to him in the counties of *Buckingham*, *Cumberland*, and *Amherſt*; and of mr. *John Hopkins*, of *New Kent*, to do the like kind office for him in that county.